ABSTRACT

A method and system for managing a plurality of tables for a plurality of

heterogeneous network processors in a network is disclosed. The network also includes at

least one host processor that utilizes at least one table management application. The method

5   and system include providing a plurality of generic application program interfaces (APIs).

The generic APIs communicate with the control application(s) and the heterogeneous

network processors. The generic APIs communicate with the table management

application(s) in a network processor independent manner, but manage the tables for the

heterogeneous network processors in a network processor specific manner. Thus, the

10   generic APIs allow the control application(s) to be network processor independent and to

manage the tables for the heterogeneous network processors in the network processor

specific manner.